

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows. Applicant has included a complete set of claims with amended claims marked to indicate additions by underlining and deletions by strikethrough.

1.-26. (Canceled)

27. (New) An antibody or a binding fragment thereof which selectively binds the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

28. (New) The antibody or binding fragment thereof of claim 27, wherein the antibody is selected from the group consisting of humanized antibodies, chimeric antibodies and single chain antibodies.

29. (New) The antibody or binding fragment thereof of claim 27, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

30. (New) The antibody or binding fragment thereof of claim 27, wherein the antibody is detectably labeled.

31. (New) The antibody or binding fragment thereof of claim 30, wherein the antibody is detectably labeled with a detectable label selected from the group consisting of radioisotopes, affinity labels, enzymatic labels, fluorescent labels and paramagnetic atoms.

32. (New) The antibody or binding fragment thereof of claim 31, wherein the affinity label is biotin or avidin.

33. (New) The antibody or binding fragment thereof of claim 31, wherein the enzymatic label is horse radish peroxidase or alkaline phosphatase.

34. (New) The antibody or binding fragment thereof of claim 31, wherein the fluorescent label is FITC or rhodamine.
35. (New) The antibody or binding fragment thereof of claim 27 immobilized on a solid support.
36. (New) A kit for detecting the presence of a polypeptide comprising:  
(a) a first container containing the antibody or binding fragment thereof of claim 27, and  
(b) instructions for detecting a polypeptide to which the antibody or binding fragment thereof binds.
37. (New) The kit of claim 36, further comprising a second container containing a conjugate comprising a binding partner of the antibody or binding fragment thereof and a detectable label.
38. (New) The kit of claim 36, wherein the antibody or binding fragment thereof further comprises a detectable label.
39. (New) The kit of claim 36, wherein the antibody or binding fragment thereof is a monoclonal antibody or a binding fragment thereof.
40. (New) A hybridoma which produces the antibody of claim 28, or a binding fragment thereof.
41. (New) A hybridoma which produces the monoclonal antibody of claim 29, or a binding fragment thereof.
42. (New) A method of detecting an EBI 1 polypeptide in a sample, comprising:  
a) contacting said sample with an antibody or binding fragment thereof according to claim 27, under conditions such that immunocomplexes form, and  
b) detecting the presence of said antibody or binding fragment thereof bound to said polypeptide.

43. (New) A method of detecting an EBI 1 polypeptide in a sample, comprising:
- a) contacting said sample with an antibody or binding fragment thereof according to claim 29, under conditions such that immunocomplexes form, and
  - b) detecting the presence of said antibody or binding fragment thereof bound to said polypeptide.